

COMPOSITION COMPETITION 2024

Richmond Brass Band, with the backing of the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames, is delighted to announce its first ever Composition Competition!

Calling All Composers

The competition is open to all composers – anyone can take part!

We welcome entries from composers of all ages, first-time brass band composers, experienced composers, residents of the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames and everyone in between!

The Composition

The composition *MUST*:

- be a new piece of contemporary music;
- be unpublished and not have been performed or recorded previously;
- be written for standard brass band instrumentation with no more than two percussion parts;
- be of no more than five minutes duration;
- be inspired by climate change and sustainability; and
- celebrate the beauty of nature in the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames.

You can compose any type of piece – a fanfare, a march, a hymn, a tone poem, a solo with accompaniment – whatever you're inspired to compose! However the winning entry will have an appeal to a normal brass band and its audience.

We hope that the piece will be performed by many other bands over time, so we recommend composing a piece that Youth Bands will be capable of performing.

The Prize

The London Borough of Richmond upon Thames have kindly awarded us £250 to be given as a prize for the winning entry.

Richmond Brass Band will perform the winning piece at the earliest opportunity later this year and throughout 2025 and beyond. We anticipate many of these performances taking place in and around the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames.

Theme – Climate Change, Sustainability, and the Beauty of Nature

The London Borough of Richmond upon Thames wants to help spark and support climate action initiatives, combat climate change, and promote sustainable practices. We want to play our part too!

We all need to engage in sustainable behaviours and keep climate action front of mind. This includes reducing carbon emissions, reducing pollution, improving air quality, encouraging skills such as upcycling, encouraging biodiversity and local natural conservation, and much else besides.

Are you inspired by the Royal Parks in the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames? Perhaps you are inspired by the River Thames itself or other local areas such as Crane Park or even the incredible artists who once performed on Eel Pie Island? Or are you inspired by the tremendous work of Sir David Attenborough, arguably one of our most famous local residents?

Standard Brass Band Instrumentation

- 1x Eb Soprano Cornet
- 9x Bb Cornets (arranged into 4x Solo Cornets, 1x Repiano Cornet, 2x Second Cornets and 2x Third Cornets)
- 1x Flugel Horn (in Bb treble clef)
- 3x Tenor Horns (arranged into Solo, First, and Second Horn) (Eb treble clef)
- 2x Baritone Horn (in Bb treble clef)
- 2x Tenor Trombones (in Bb treble clef)
- 1x Bass Trombone (in C bass clef)
- 2x Euphonium (in Bb treble clef)
- 2x Eb Bass (Tuba) (in treble clef)
- 2x Bb Bass (Tuba) (in treble clef)
- Percussion

It's important to note that in a modern brass band, ALL instruments (with the exception of Bass Trombone and Percussion) are written in either Bb or Eb treble clef (bass trombone is pitched in Bb, but scored in C bass clef).

Advice on the basics of brass band scoring can be found by watching Philip Harper's excellent video.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IGyuehvBFbE>

Judging Panel

The judging panel will primarily consist of members of Richmond Brass Band. A representative of the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames will also be invited to be on the judging panel. One or more additional members of the judging panel may also be appointed.

The same panel will judge all the entries and their decision will be final.

How Do I Enter?

Submit the following to rbbcomp@richmondbrassband.com no later than 31st October 2024:

- a full pdf score of your composition plus an audio file (eg mp3);
- a written statement of how your composition reflects the theme (no more than 1000 words); and
- the completed registration form.

All submissions will be judged anonymously

- Please remove your name and any identifying marks from scores and recordings.
- The panel will only see scores, recordings and statements, all other information will remain hidden.

Any Questions

Contact us at rbbcomp@richmondbrassband.com with any questions.

Good luck!

REGISTRATION FORM

Your Name	
Title of Work	
Duration	
Email Address	
Phone Number	
Please Check	<input type="checkbox"/> PDF File and MP3 attached <input type="checkbox"/> This piece has not been performed before

By signing and submitting this registration form I confirm that:

- I agree to Richmond Brass Band storing my personal details for the purposes of administering the competition, in accordance with the privacy policy here <https://richmondbrassband.com/privacy-policy/>; and
- I have read, understood and agree to the terms and conditions of the Richmond Brass Band Composition Competition.

Signature:

Date: